

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /094 W  
-----067894 120107Z /63

R 101227Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0713  
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
AMEMBASSY MADRID  
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT  
AMEMBASSY RABAT  
USUN NEW YORK 0590

CONFIDENTIAL LIBREVILLE 0616

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PDOR, SS, OAU  
SUBJ: BONGO PRESS INTERVIEW ON OUA MATTERS

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED:

1. OAU CHAIRMAN BONGO COMMENTED INTER ALIA ON OAU SPECIAL SUMMIT ON  
WESTERN SAHARA, ZIMBABWE, CANARY ISLANDS INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT,  
HORN OF AFRICA (BEING REPORTED SEPTEL) AND NAMIBIA DURING COURSE  
MARCH 9 PRESS INTERVIEW:

A. BONGO WAS NEGATIVE ABOUT OUA COUNCIL OF MINISTERS DECISION AT  
TRIPOLI TO PROVIDE LESS FINANCIAL SUPPORT THAN GOG REQUESTED TO HOST  
THE SPECIAL SUMMIT AT LIBREVILLE, AND THE RECOMMENDATION THAT A  
SPECIAL OUA SUMMIT BE CONVENED IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO THE JULY  
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REGULAR OAU SUMMIT. HE CALLED THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS DECISION  
AN ACT OF "DISCOURTESY" AND STATED HE WOULD REFUSE TO PRESIDE OVER  
ANY SUCH SUMMIT RECOMMENDED UNLESS IT WERE APPROVED AT THE HIGHEST  
LEVEL BY THE CHIEFS OF STATE.

B. ASKED ABOUT HIS POSITION ON RHODESIAN INTERNAL SETTLEMENT,  
BONGO DECLARED OAU RECOGNITION OF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT DID NOT

AUTOMATICALLY EXCLUDE OTHER NATIONALISTS. FURTHER, HE SAID, THE PATRIOTIC FRONT ENDORSEMENT WAS FOR THE ARMED STRUGGLE WHICH DID NOT NECESSARILY GUARANTEE IT POLITICAL LEADERSHIP AND THAT THE OAU MUST NOW REXAMINE THE SITUATION WITH GOAL TOWARD GETTING ALL ZIMBABWEAN NATIONALISTS ENGAGED IN THE ELECTORAL PROCESS.

C. BONGO CALLED ERRONEOUS PRESS REPORTS THAT TRIPOLI COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING HAD RECOGNIZED THE CANARY ISLAND INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT (MPAIAC). THE ACTUAL FACT IS, HE SAID, THE COUNCIL RECOMMENDED SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE MPAIAC. THIS RECOMMENDATION MUST STILL BE EXAMINED BY THE CHIEFS OF STATE.

D. IN RESPONSE TO A LONG QUESTION CONCERNING OAU SUPPORT FOR SWAPO AND INTERNAL NAMIBIAN ELEMENTS NEGOTIATING WITH SOUTH AFRICA, BONGO MADE NON-STATEMENT THAT ANY INDEPENDENCE STRUGGLE MUST UTILIZE THE APPROPRIATE TACTIC AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME.  
END UNCLASSIFIED.

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2. COMMENT: OAU ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL KAMANDA WA KAMANDA TOLD AMBASSADOR MARCH 2, THAT ALGERIA HAD WITHDRAWN OFFER TO MAKE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION FOR LIBREVILLE SPECIAL SUMMIT WHICH PRESUMABLY WOULD HAVE MADE UP SHORT FALL NOT COVERED BY OAU AND PERMITTED CONFERENCE TO BE HELD. ALGERIANS APPARENTLY WANT TO SEE WHAT WILL HAPPEN IN FRENCH ELECTIONS. IF A LEFT COALITION WINS, THEY  
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APPARENTLY EXPECT FRENCH SUPPORT FOR MOROCCO IN WESTERN SAHARA TO DECLINE. KAMANDA WA KAMANDA ALSO INDICATED THAT BONGO STATEMENT ON RHODESIAN INTERNAL SETTLEMENT FAIRLY ACCURATELY REFLECTED OAU CONSENSUS.TIENKEN

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Subject:** BONGO PRESS INTERVIEW ON OUA MATTERS BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED  
**TAGS:** PDIP, PEPR, SOPN, SS, OAU, (BONGO, EL HADJ OMAR)  
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